

Regular City Council Meeting – January 27, 2015

The Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Councilmembers Present: Michele McCall-Wallace, Jean Lynch, John Sawatzky, Stephen Kullmann

Councilmembers Absent: Lana Manzanita

Staff Present: Deputy City Clerk April Sousa, City Manager John Berchtold, City Planner Garry Rees

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Kullmann motioned to approve the agenda as stated. Councilmember Lynch seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

Public Input

The public in attendance offered a suggestion to move “Councilmember and Staff Reports” before the “Consent Agenda” on future agendas, as they are interesting and others may find them also interesting. It was noted that the “Consent Agenda” typically does not take much time.

Appointments to Vacancies on Parks and Recreation Commission

Councilmember Lynch motioned to appoint Parks and Recreation Commission applicants Patricia Powell and Amanda Mager to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Councilmember Kullmann seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Appointments to Vacancy on Planning Commission

Councilmember Kullmann motioned to appoint David Glen to fill the vacancy on the Planning Commission. Councilmember Lynch seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Presentation on Updated FEMA Levee Maps

City Planner Garry Rees gave a presentation on the FEMA maps and possible changes. Areas are protected by the levee, but the levee is out of compliance. The maps better delineate what is in the 500 year flood plain as well as include the Rancheria, which was previously not on other maps.

Council and public were offered a chance to ask questions and get clarification on reading the maps.

City Manager Berchtold stated that both the County and the City will need to look for funding for repairs to make the levee be in compliance.

Mayor McCall-Wallace asked for the link to the maps to be placed on the City website.

It was noted that FEMA will contact the City through the City Manager one month after the date of the notice that was sent, which will be around February 9th, to coordinate meetings to discuss the revised flood hazard information.

Mayor McCall-Wallace mentioned that the public could use this information to see if their homes may be affected in the future, which could affect flood insurance rates.

Staggering Terms of Public Safety Commission

City Manager Berchtold gave an overview of the current terms of the Public Safety Commission.

Currently all terms are 2 year terms, and all expire on the same year. City Manager Berchtold made a suggestion on how to do this. He stated that this is a policy change, which means that there would need to be an ordinance amendment.

Mayor McCall-Wallace asks for a clarification on the ordinance process. This process is a minimum 60 day process.

Two options were discussed: (1) go through the ordinance process now so it is ready for 2017, and appoint interested parties as soon as they come available or (2) go through the ordinance process and ask interested parties to wait until it is complete.

After discussion, Councilmember Kullmann suggested that the Council move forward with the Public Safety Commission vacancies, and fill them as interested parties come available, and at the same time, work on the Ordinance process so that the staggering of terms could be ready when all terms come due in 2017. There was a general consensus among the council to do this suggestion.

City Website – Business Section Changes

Mayor McCall-Wallace gave an overview of where this item discussion ended at the last meeting.

City Manager Berchtold explains that in the Strategic Plan, businesses are to be promoted through the Chamber website.

Mayor McCall-Wallace gave historic information on the website and why it was set up the way it was originally set up.

Councilmember Lynch asks for discussion on if there needs to be a business section on the website, or if it can be deleted.

During public input, there was interest in having a list of those who have business licenses on the website in a spreadsheet form, for transparency reasons. Informational input was also given that the old Chamber website will be archived soon and to change the current link on the City Website. Dues were discussed, and though no one had an exact number of what the dues were, it was mentioned that it was a nominal fee.

The discussion went back to Council. Mayor McCall Wallace suggested getting the input of the businesses that are currently listed. It was mentioned that just because a business has a license does not mean that it is in compliance, or that it is a good or bad business, it simply means they are businesses that do business in Blue Lake.

Councilmember Sawatzky suggested turning all business related website information over to the Chamber.

Councilmember Kullmann liked the idea of asking the businesses for their input.

Mayor McCall-Wallace offers to contact businesses for their opinion.

City Manager Berchtold suggests for 2015 to not put any businesses up, or keep the site as is, and for 2016, update the renewal letter to have a box people could check if they would like to be added to the website.

Mayor McCall-Wallace would like to update the list for those with current business licenses in the City database for 2015.

Councilmember Sawatzky asked how much time was involved with updating the website. Councilmember McCall-Wallace stated it was volunteer hours by herself for the Business section of the website, and the time varies, but can be about 4 hours.

Councilmember Kullmann motioned to (1) keep the business section up on the City website and update the listing (clean it up) for 2015 current business licenses; to (2) add a box to the renewal process next year (2016) so that businesses can be asked if they would like to be on the website or not, and the list can be updated annually; to (3) add or update the Chamber website link on the City website; and (4) for transparency, add a line to the website that business licenses are available at City Hall for inspection. Councilmember Lynch seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Referral to Public Safety Commission Concerning Accessing Law Enforcement Services and Establishing a Project Budget

Mayor McCall-Wallace, as Public Safety Commission Liaison, gave a reminder of the Council's priorities to the Public Safety Commission. These priorities were: (1) Educating Citizens on Law Enforcement Services, (2) Proactive Law Enforcement Communications, and (3) Add Functioning Neighborhood Watch Type Groups. She suggested some sort of public information campaign and asked Council to help the Public Safety Commission to come up with ideas and set a budget for them to come back to council

with a plan. Clarification was given that the idea of a budget is to give a monetary parameter to the Public Safety Commission for their project. Once they come back to Council with an idea, the dollar amount will then be up for approval by Council. Public Safety would come from the General Fund. City Manager Berchtold suggested a realistic project budget of \$500.

During public input for this item, it was suggested that there may be some grant funding for this area. Suggestion was made to see if a commissioner might look into this.

Councilmember Sawatzky asked how well these campaigns usually work. It was noted that at this point, many people do not know the number for the Sheriff Office, and that something would be better than nothing.

Councilmember Kullman motioned to refer to the Public Safety Commission to develop multiple strategies to educate the public on how to access law enforcement with a budget not to exceed \$500.

Councilmember Sawatzky seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion of Disposition of Seized Items

City Manager Berchtold gave an overview of the request. The City day Deputy informed City Manager Berchtold that items that have been seized over the past 3 years amount to around \$300. Items that are obtained during a drug related event go directly to the Drug Task Force.

A question arose about what would be done with the information – what is the value of obtaining this information?

Mayor McCall-Wallace noted this item came to the agenda because the Public Safety Commission asked for this.

Councilmember Kullmann wondered if there was a policy to get stolen property that is seized back to its owner. It was noted that this discussion revolved around unclaimed items.

Councilmember Sawatzky brought up the idea that this might not be cost effective.

Mayor McCall-Wallace recommended as liaison with the Public Safety Commission and Sheriff to have a conversation about what is the process and how does it work.

Councilmember Lynch referenced this item coming about due to old history with the Blue Lake Police Department.

The discussion ended with the idea that asking the police to do more with this request would not be cost effective, and Mayor McCall Wallace will discuss with the Sheriff Office.

Addition to the Humboldt County Legislative Platform

An overview of the legislative platform submittal that was done on September 9, 2014 was given. Council was asked if there was anything to add or comments to be made. Councilmember Sawatzky motioned to add an initiative advocating for levee funding to the platform. Councilmember Kullmann seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Proposal from GR Sundberg, Inc for Sewer Rehabilitation Work

City Manager Berchtold gave a quick overview. Councilmember Kullmann motioned to accept the GR Sundburg proposal for Sewer Rehabilitation work. Councilmember Lynch seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

The sole item on the consent agenda, Monthly Financial Statements November 2014, was pulled from the Consent Agenda by Mayor McCall-Wallace.

Monthly Financial Statements November 2014

Mayor McCall-Wallace asked for clarification regarding the high percent of budget on total revenues for Funds 61 and 63. Councilmember Lynch asked for more information on contract services expenditures.

Councilmember Kullmann motioned to accept the Monthly Financial Statements November 2014. Councilmember Sawatzky seconded. The motioned carried unanimously.

Reports of Council and Staff

Councilmember Lynch – RCEA meeting included overview of programs available. At the HBMWD meeting, it was announced that Carol Rische was retiring. At the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, there was discussion regarding the Basketball and Volleyball leagues, horse arena, upcoming events, park improvements and placement of the trail kiosk. Parks and Recreation Director, Cameron Mull, is hoping for some volunteers to help with improvement and trail kiosk projects. At the Blue Lake Fire Department meeting, there was a discussion on response to out of district calls. Councilmember Lynch passed out district area maps to the council. She also mentioned that there are minor changes that need to happen to the Community side of the website in regards to the Fire Department.

Councilmember Kullmann – At the HWMA board meeting, the closing of the Cummings Road landfill was announced, and board member Orientation was on Friday.

Councilmember Sawatzky – At the RREDC meeting, there was a discussion regarding the Marijuana industry. The Indian Gaming commission email stated there will be no funding this year - additional funding sought by supervisors.

City Manager Berchtold – mentioned that the City submitted the final Riverwatch report. Some lines need inspection and this report concludes several items of the settlement. City Manager Berchtold also gave a short report on realignment.

Mayor McCall-Wallace – mentioned the recent Public Safety Commission's annual meeting and that information gathered will be available at the next meeting. HCAOG meeting report said there was funding for bus stops. The removal of emergency call boxes are being discussed, as well as unmet transit needs. There is money available for tribes for transit needs, and there is a hope to better coordinate the Blue Lake Transit System with other busses. Mayor McCall-Wallace also mentioned that at the HCAOG meeting, there was proposed action motions for each item on the agenda and that this made the meeting run smoothly – suggesting this could work for the City. She also wanted to discuss in the future an electronic option for Council Packets. Mayor McCall-Wallace would like to do a special resolution in recognition of Lana Manzanita at the next meeting. A reminder of Form 700 submissions was given.

Minutes from January 13, 2015

Councilmember Sawatzky motioned to adopt the minutes with changes. Councilmember Kullmann seconded. The motion carried with the following vote: Ayes – Lynch, Sawatzky, McCall-Wallace, Nays – none, Abstain – Kullmann, Absent – Manzanita.

Future Agenda Items

- Electronic distribution of Council Packets
- Resolution for Lana Manzanita

Correspondence

Nate Blum resigned from the Parks and Recreation Commission. There will be a 30 day posting for his vacancy.

Adjourn

At 8:50, Councilmember Kullmann motioned to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Sawatzky seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

April Sousa, Deputy City Clerk